

COMMENTS OF MICHELLE A. FYRE
CITY OF TEMPE PROPOSED TRANSIT SERVICE CHANGES FOR JULY 2010

I have had a chance to review the proposed changes for Tempe that would take place with the July, 2010 bid. Tempe's primary proposed changes to mainline bus services include:

- Elimination of trips that start before 5:30AM.
- Reduction of Sunday headway to 60 minutes on all routes except 72.
- Reduction of peak headway on routes 48, 62 and 81.
- Elimination of Route 40 on University and Sky Harbor Airport.
- Elimination or restructure of Tempe miles on Express routes 511, 532, 536 and 540.

While I agree with a majority of the Tempe proposed changes, I do feel that the 532 and 540 express services must be maintained. While these two routes go through Tempe to reach the freeway, both routes do have passengers who board or alight within in Tempe to and from locations inside and outside of Tempe without going on the freeway. There are other changes that I am counter-proposing that will reduce the same number of mainline bus service hours and still keep more services operating, especially on the weekend.

I am proposing some modifications to the Tempe service changes, including:

- Removal of Route 48 from Rio Salado Parkway and rerouting to Sky Harbor Airport to maintain a link from the Airport to Tempe.
- Restructure of Route 56 and 108 weekend service to maintain 30 minute service on Priest, eliminate duplication in Guadalupe and maintain similar Saturday and Sunday service schedules in City of Phoenix.
- Maintain Sunday service every 30 minutes on Route 61.
- Maintain express routes 532 and 540.

I am not proposing any additional changes to Metro Light Rail or Orbit services.

See the following pages with more information on my counterproposal.

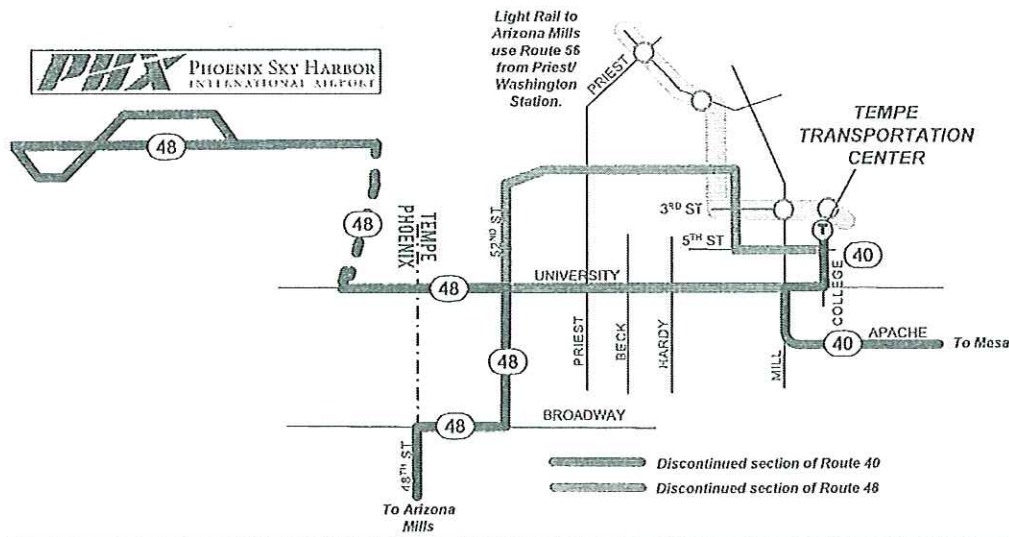
Michelle A. Fyre
1125 S. ...
Tempe, AZ 85281
mae@rcnet.com

RESTRUCTURE OF ROUTES 40 AND 48

The comments from this proposed service change and previous ones have been clear that there must be some form of a link between Sky Harbor Airport and Tempe maintained. At the same time, I believe that it is appropriate to remove the duplication on University Dr. We must also look at the service on Rio Salado Parkway. In a time of crisis, we must look at all low usage segments, including those that have been recently implemented. The intention of the Route 48 change was done in part to remove duplication from the previous Route 92 as well as provide new service to the Tempe Center or the Arts. Unfortunately, the number of events that take place at TCA does not warrant the headway and span of service going by the facility. Tempe should consider expanding an Orbit route to TCA to service specific events. Not too many other facilities are served off this section of route and this area has no established ridership. One of the major trips on Route 48 is to go from the light rail to Arizona Mills Mall. This is a trip that can be done on Route 56 from Priest & Washington.

I counter-propose that:

- The Route 40 change implemented as originally proposed by Tempe.
- Change north terminal of Route 48 to Sky Harbor following the routing of Route 40 between 52nd Street & University and Sky Harbor Airport.
- Discontinue Route 48 service between 52nd Street & University and Downtown Tempe Transit Center.



RESTRUCTURE OF ROUTES 56 AND 108

Somewhat similar to a proposal made in a previous proposed service change, I am proposing that weekend trips on Route 108 be interlined with Route 56. On weekends, Route 56 would operate trips from Priest & Washington to Priest & Elliot with hourly service being extended to 48th St & Chandler. The other trips will change to Route 108 service and will be extended to the ASU Research Park. This proposed change will maintain 30 minute weekend (both Saturday and Sunday) headway on Priest Dr. north of Elliot Rd. Arizona Mills Mall is a major destination from the light rail and I feel that it warrants 30 minute Sunday service. There will be savings on this route as duplicating 108 service between Arizona Mills and Elliot would be removed. I do not support the use of the 108 route number between Priest & Washington and the ASU Research Park is proposed on a previous service change. This will also result in a service reduction on Saturday within the City of Phoenix portion of the route under the City Council mandate that Saturday service matches Sunday schedules within the City of Phoenix.

ROUTE 61

Without any knowledge of what Phoenix, Mesa or RPTA is doing on Route 61, I feel that at this time, it is necessary to maintain the same service level along the entire route and not create an "island" in the schedule. Until Phoenix or Mesa reduces 61 to hourly Sunday service in their jurisdiction, we must maintain 30 minute service on this route.

EXPRESS ROUTES 532 AND 540

While the 532 is a "Mesa" express and the 540 is a "Chandler" express, both of these routes do carry passengers from Mesa and Chandler to and from Tempe. These passengers pay express fares but never get on the Freeway. There has been a very long established travel pattern between the 532 and the 72 along Scottsdale Rd. This travel pattern could not be replaced through any other means. The 540 provides the only service along Warner since the elimination of the 124 several years ago. This section does get "local" and express ridership.

I have not seen any evidence of any success on the 536 due to it's limited boarding points and point to point duplication (Mesa Riverview to Light Rail also provided by Routes 96 & 104). Therefore, I will support the elimination of the 536.

The service change notice was not clear on what changes were made on the 511.

ROUTE BY ROUTE SUMMARY OF TEMPE SERVICE CHANGES AND MY RESPONSE

ROUTE	Tempe Proposed Change	Eyre Response
30	Remove trips before 5:30AM	Agree as proposed.
40	Remove service on University and Sky Harbor Airport making the west terminal Tempe Transit Center. Remove trips before 5:30AM 60 minute headway on Sunday.	Agree as proposed. Replace segment between a point in Tempe and Sky Harbor Airport with restructured Route 48.
45	Remove trips before 5:30 AM 60 minute headway on Sunday.	Agree as proposed.
48	Remove trips before 5:30 AM 20 minute peak headway. 60 minute headway on Sunday.	Restructure route. Make north terminal Sky Harbor Airport replacing portions of Route 40. Discontinue service between 52 nd St & University and Tempe Transit Center primarily along Rio Salado Pkwy. Consider replacing service to and from Tempe Center for the Arts with special event Orbit services. Route 48 would have 30 minute headway Monday through Saturday with no peak increase and service every 60 minutes on Sunday.
56	Remove trips before 5:30 AM 60 minute headway on Sunday.	On Saturday and Sunday, operate every 30 minutes between Priest & Washington and Priest & Elliot, every 60 minutes between Priest & Elliot and 48 th St & Chandler. Buses that terminate and originate at Priest & Elliot would be interlined with Route 108 to and from ASU Research Park.
61	Remove trips before 5:30 AM 60 minute headway on Sunday.	Maintain 30 minute headway on Sundays.
62	Remove trips before 5:30 AM. 20 minute peak headway. 60 minute headway on Sunday.	Agree as proposed.
65/66	Remove trips before 5:30 AM.	Agree as proposed.
72	Remove trips before 5:30 AM.	Agree as proposed.
77	Remove trips before 5:30 AM 60 minute headway on Sunday.	Agree as proposed.
81	Remove trips before 5:30 AM. 20 minute peak headway.	Agree as proposed.
108	Remove trips before 5:30 AM. 60 minute weekday headway.	Agree as proposed but also on weekends, change west terminal to Priest & Elliot. Buses will be interlined with Route 56 to continue to and from Arizona Mills and Priest & Washington.
532	Eliminate Route within Tempe	Keep route under current schedule.
536	Eliminate Route within Tempe	Agree as proposed.
540	Eliminate Route within Tempe	Keep route under current schedule.

	CURRENT SERVICE LEVELS	TEMPE			PHOENIX			GUADALUPE		
		DX	SA	SU	DX	SA	SU	DX	SA	SU
30-University	Current service level Tempe	403.0	385.0	169.0						
40-Apache/Main	Current service level Sky Harbor to Price	453.0	432.0	432.0	277.2	264.0	264.0			
45-Broadway	Current service level Tempe	550.8	408.0	336.6						
48-48th Street	Current service level entire route	816.0	624.0	560.0						
56-Priest	Current service level entire route	638.0	494.2	435.2	324.0	244.8	244.8	131.6	109.2	95.2
61-Southern	Current service level Tempe	265.2	198.9	163.2						
62-Hardy	Current service level entire route	1336.2	995.6	917.0						
65-Mill/Kyrene	Current service level entire route	584.8	344.0	309.6						
66-Mill/68th St	Current service level Tempe	701.2	408.0	367.2						
72-Scottsdale/Rural	Current service level Tempe	1357.8	888.6	768.8						
77-Baseline	Current service level Tempe	455.2	393.0	357.0						
81-McClintock	Current service level Tempe	963.2	386.6	346.8						
108-Elliott	Current service level AZ Mills to Price/Elliott	418.4	201.4	180.2				104.4	53.2	47.6
532-McKellips Exp	Current service level Tempe	40.0	0.0	0.0						
536-Metro Exp	Current service level Tempe	32.0	0.0	0.0						
540-Warner Exp	Current service level Tempe	36.8	0.0	0.0						
Total Trip Miles		9051.6	6169.3	5342.6	601.2	508.8	508.8	236.0	162.4	142.8

	PROPOSED BY TEMPE	TEMPE			PHOENIX			GUADALUPE		
		DX	SA	SU	DX	SA	SU	DX	SA	SU
30-University	Eliminate before 530a only	385.0	367.0	169.0						
40-Apache/Main	West terminal changed to TTC	281.2	281.1	141.6	0.0	0.0	0.0			
45-Broadway	Eliminate before 530a/60 min Sunday	540.6	397.8	173.4						
48-48th Street	Reduce peak to 20m/Elim before 530/60m Sunday	688.0	608.0	272.0						
56-Priest	Elim before 530/60m Sunday	612.4	494.2	217.6	316.8	244.8	122.4	126.0	109.2	57.6
61-Southern	Elim before 530/60m Sunday	255.0	193.8	86.7						
62-Hardy	Reduce peak to 20m/Elim before 530/60m Sunday	1126.6	969.4	445.4						
65-Mill/Kyrene	Eliminate before 530a only	567.6	326.8	309.6						
66-Mill/68th St	Eliminate before 530a only	680.8	387.6	346.8						
72-Scottsdale/Rural	Eliminate before 530a only	1293.0	823.8	743.6						
77-Baseline	Eliminate before 530a/60 min Sunday	446.2	393.0	251.6						
81-McClintock	Reduce peak to 20m/Elim before 530	922.4	396.6	346.8						
108-Elliott	Current service level AZ Mills to Price/Elliott	217.0	201.4	180.2				53.2	53.2	47.6
532-McKellips Exp	Eliminate Route	0.0	0.0	0.0						
536-Metro Exp	Eliminate Route	0.0	0.0	0.0						
540-Warner Exp	Eliminate Route	0.0	0.0	0.0						
Total Trip Miles proposed by Tempe		8015.8	5840.5	3684.3	316.8	244.8	122.4	179.2	162.4	105.2
Current service Total Trip Miles		9051.6	6169.3	5342.6	601.2	508.8	508.8	236.0	162.4	142.8
Net difference		(1035.8)	(328.8)	(1658.3)	(284.4)	(264.0)	(386.4)	(56.8)	0.0	(37.6)

	EYRE PROPOSAL	TEMPE			PHOENIX			GUADALUPE		
		DX	SA	SU	DX	SA	SU	DX	SA	SU
30-University	As Tempe proposal	385.0	367.0	169.0						
40-Apache/Main	As Tempe proposal	281.2	281.1	141.6	0.0	0.0	0.0			
45-Broadway	As Tempe proposal	540.6	397.8	173.4						
48-48th Street	Elim Rio Salado/route to Airport/30m DX-SA/60SU	410.4	410.4	183.6	250.8	250.8	112.2			
56-Priest	Elim before 530/30m Sa-Su S of Elliott only	612.4	477.2	477.2	316.8	122.4	122.4	126.0	109.2	109.2
61-Southern	Keep 30 min svc on Sundays - regional route	255.0	193.8	158.1						
62-Hardy	As Tempe proposal	1126.6	969.4	445.4						
65-Mill/Kyrene	As Tempe proposal	567.6	326.8	309.6						
66-Mill/68th St	As Tempe proposal	680.8	387.6	346.8						
72-Scottsdale/Rural	As Tempe proposal	1293.0	823.8	743.6						
77-Baseline	As Tempe proposal	446.2	393.0	251.6						
81-McClintock	As Tempe proposal	922.4	396.6	346.8						
108-Elliott	On weekends, terminate at Priest/Elliott	175.2	159.6	142.8				0.0	0.0	0.0
532-McKellips Exp	Keep current service levels	40.0	0.0	0.0						
536-Metro Exp	As Tempe proposal	0.0	0.0	0.0						
540-Warner Exp	Keep current service levels	36.8	0.0	0.0						
Total Trip Miles proposed by Eyre		7773.2	5584.1	3889.5	567.6	373.2	234.6	126.0	109.2	109.2
Current service Total Trip Miles		9051.6	6169.3	5342.6	601.2	508.8	508.8	236.0	162.4	142.8
Net Difference (Current to Eyre)		(1278.4)	(585.2)	(1453.1)	(33.6)	(135.6)	(274.2)	(110.0)	(53.2)	(33.6)
Net Difference (Tempe proposal to Eyre proposal)		(242.6)	(256.4)	205.2	250.8	128.4	112.2	(53.2)	(53.2)	4.0

TOTAL WEEKLY TRIP MILES	TEMPE	PHX	GUAD	TOTAL
Current service	56769.9	4023.6	1485.2	62278.7
Tempe Proposal	49603.8	1951.2	1163.6	52718.6
Eyre Proposal	48339.6	3445.8	848.4	52633.8

ROUTE 56 / 108 WEEKEND SUMMARY SCHEDULE

BLK	48ST WARN	ROUTE 108		PRST ELLT	AZ MILLS	PRST WASH	PRST WASH	AZ MILLS	PRST ELLT	ROUTE 108		48ST WARN
		RSCH PARK	PRST ELLT							PRST ELLT	RSCH PARK	
1								5:41	5:52			6:09
3							5:50	6:12	6:23	6:30	6:41	
2	5:26			5:39	5:50	6:05	6:20	6:42	6:53			7:10
4		5:54	6:05	6:09	6:20	6:35	6:50	7:12	7:23	7:30	7:41	
1	6:26			6:39	6:50	7:05	7:20	7:42	7:53			8:10
3		6:54	7:05	7:09	7:20	7:35	7:50	8:12	8:23	8:30	8:41	
2	7:26			7:39	7:50	8:05	8:20	8:42	8:53			9:10
4		7:54	8:05	8:09	8:20	8:35	8:50	9:12	9:23	9:30	9:41	
1	8:26			8:39	8:50	9:05	9:20	9:42	9:53			10:10
3		8:54	9:05	9:09	9:20	9:35	9:50	10:12	10:23	10:30	10:41	
2	9:26			9:39	9:50	10:05	10:20	10:42	10:53			11:10
4		9:54	10:05	10:09	10:20	10:35	10:50	11:12	11:23	11:30	11:41	
1	10:23			10:36	10:50	11:05	11:20	11:42	11:53			12:10
3		10:54	11:05	11:06	11:20	11:35	11:50	12:12	12:23	12:30	12:41	
2	11:23			11:36	11:50	12:05	12:20	12:42	12:53			1:10
4		11:54	12:05	12:08	12:20	12:37	12:52	1:14	1:25	1:30	1:41	
1	12:25			12:38	12:50	1:07	1:22	1:44	1:55			2:12
3		12:54	1:05	1:08	1:20	1:37	1:52	2:14	2:25	2:30	2:41	
2	1:25			1:38	1:50	2:07	2:22	2:44	2:55			3:12
4		1:54	2:05	2:08	2:20	2:37	2:52	3:14	3:25	3:30	3:41	
1	2:25			2:38	2:50	3:07	3:22	3:44	3:55			4:12
3		2:54	3:05	3:08	3:20	3:37	3:52	4:14	4:25	4:30	4:41	
2	3:25			3:38	3:50	4:07	4:22	4:44	4:55			5:12
4		3:54	4:05	4:08	4:20	4:37	4:52	5:14	5:25	5:30	5:41	
1	4:25			4:38	4:50	5:07	5:22	5:44	5:55			6:12
3		4:54	5:05	5:08	5:20	5:37	5:52	6:14	6:25	6:30	6:41	
2	5:25			5:38	5:50	6:07	6:22	6:44	6:55			7:12
4		5:54	6:05	6:08	6:20	6:37	6:52	7:14	7:25	7:30	7:41	
1	6:25			6:38	6:50	7:07	7:27	7:49	8:00			8:17
3		6:54	7:05	7:08	7:20	7:35	7:57	8:19	8:30	8:30	8:41	
2	7:25			7:37	7:50	8:05	8:27	8:49	9:00			9:17
4		7:54	8:05	8:07	8:20	8:35	8:57	9:19	9:30	9:30	9:41	
1	8:24			8:37	8:50	9:05	9:27	9:49	10:00			
3		8:54	9:05	9:07	9:20	9:35	9:57	10:19	10:30	10:30	10:41	
2	9:24			9:37	9:50	10:05	10:27	10:49	11:00			
4		9:54	10:05	10:07	10:20	10:35	10:57	11:19	11:30	11:30	11:41	
1				10:37	10:50	11:05	11:27	11:49	12:00			
3		10:54	11:05	11:07	11:20	11:35	11:59	12:21	12:32			
2				11:37	11:50	12:05	12:29	12:51	1:02			
1				12:07	12:20	12:35						
3				12:37	12:50	1:05						

Trips in blue italics operate on Saturday only.

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, April 05, 2010 1:57 PM
To: Ellis, Shana; Arredondo, Ben; Kephart, Glenn
Cc: Yennie, Mari
Subject: Consideration of Budget Alternatives to Eliminating Funding for 540 Express Bus

Dear City Council Transportation Committee and Public Works Manager,

Please consider budget alternatives to eliminating funding for the 540 express bus. I believe there are other ways to stay on budget, with less community impact, than this proposed cut.

Personally, I bought my house in Tempe specifically because I could walk to a bus that could take me to downtown Phoenix (540), and I also love having a walking distance transit option to downtown Tempe (72). Please don't take my ride to work away from me, effectively pushing me into a car. The last thing Tempe needs, besides more fund sweeps at the legislature, is more cars on the roads.

On a much broader/community level, please review the attached document. Overall I believe that Tempe has a highly professional workforce and dedicated elected officials; I generally trust the collective judgment of staff and the Council. However, in this instance, I wonder if every stone has truly been turned, and if the proposed transit cuts are clearly the least impactful or most fair to the community.

Page 2 of 2

Thank you for your consideration.

Jeremy Legg
260 E Dawn Dr
Tempe, AZ 85284

The City of Tempe should reconsider its proposed elimination of funding for the 540 express bus service for the following reasons:

Facts

- The 540 is the only express bus serving south Tempe.
- The 540 consistently has the highest Average Express Boardings per Trip of any express bus serving Tempe.
- The 540 frequently has twice as many Express Boardings per Weekday compared to the 520.
- The 2009-10 Tempe Transportation Division budget is \$49,482,471. Is there truly no other place to find \$75,642 to fund the 540?

Equity

- There are very few transit options in south Tempe compared to north Tempe. While there may be more transit users and density in north Tempe compared to south, this does not justify utilizing nearly all of the city's transit funds in north Tempe at the expense of south Tempe.
- Most of the other proposed cuts to local routes are impacting the few that serve south Tempe, including the 72, 108, 62 and 81.

Impact

- Eliminating the 540 will result in adding thousands of cars every month to Tempe streets, as well as freeways in Tempe.
- This will increase congestion, pollution and the risk of traffic collisions while decreasing the quality of life for residents; this decision impacts many more people than just those who ride the 540.
- Demand will increase for public safety and street maintenance services when more cars lead to more accidents and wear and tear on local streets. These departments are no doubt facing budget pressures of their own, i.e. any savings generated from eliminating 540 service may only add to expenses elsewhere.

Alternatives

- The 520 and 521 serve nearly the same area. Many stops for the 521 are within two miles or less of stops serving the 520. There is no nearby alternative to the 540. Some consolidation or trimming of these lines could be considered in lieu of total elimination of the 540.
- If reducing weekday Orbit service after 7pm from 15 minutes to 30 minutes saves nearly \$350,000; and adding 5 minutes to Orbit on Saturdays saves nearly \$120,000, and we only need about \$75,000 for the 540, then relatively minor further adjustments could be made to Orbit. For example, Mars and Earth appear to be the least utilized Orbits; their routes could be combined or five minutes

added to their frequency intervals to save the only south Tempe express bus service.

- If Chandler cuts funding for the 540, the route could be adjusted to start at Warner near the 101 or at the existing park-n-ride at McClintock.
- Of the nearly \$50 million transportation budget, is every other expenditure of about \$75,000 more critical than the 540 bus service? For instance, can brochures or other written materials be available electronically only, saving printing and postage costs?